

July 25, 2003

Subject: Amendment No. 1 to Letter of Interest No. RCQ-3-33636, "University Research and Development (R&D) for Future Generation Solar Electric Technologies@

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

The following information is provided in response to questions received regarding the subject solicitation:

1. **Question:** Can a small U.S. business be the responder to this solicitation with no U.S. or foreign University participating in the project team?

Answer: No.

2. **Question:** Can a small U.S. business be the leading responder to this solicitation with the participation of a U.S. University as a team member (e.g. principle co-investigator)?

Answer: No.

3. **Question:** If the responder must be a U.S. University, what percentage of the work can be performed by a small U.S. business that is a team member?

Answer: A maximum of 50% of the work can be performed by a small U.S. business that is a team member.

4. **Question:** In referring to the generation of the electric power from sunlight, the solicitation uses the term "solar electric" rather than "photovoltaic." The Solar Electric Power Association defines itself as, "a collaboration of utilities, energy service providers and the photovoltaic industry working together to create and encourage commercial use of new solar electric power business models." Sounds like a synonym, right? Where would we find a definition of what NREL means by the term "solar electric"? Is this term intended just as a synonym for photovoltaic generation of electric power by organic, inorganic, or hybrid means? Or is something else implied that differs from this? We're confused. Please explain.

Answer: Yes, the term "solar electric" is synonymous with "photovoltaic."

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5. **Question:** Is a university's proposal allowed to include an explicit collaboration with NREL? For instance, is a university allowed to put a student in a lab at NREL full-time to assist with the NREL side of the collaboration (assuming the NREL Sr. researcher has already agreed to let this be claimed in the proposal)?

Answer: Yes, a university's proposal may include a collaboration with NREL, as has been done in the past. However, this collaboration cannot impact milestones/deliverables. In addition, students may be permitted to work on-site at NREL on a case-by-case basis, dependent on approval for NREL staff to take on a sabbatical.

6. **Question:** What is the estimated starting/funding date for awards under this solicitation?

Answer: We estimate that awards will be made during the start of calendar year 2004; however, this estimated time frame is subject to change based on availability of funds.

No other changes or alterations are made by virtue of this Amendment No. 1. Offerors are required to acknowledge receipt of this Amendment No. 1 with any response submitted in response to this solicitation.

Point of Contact: Liz Surek-Smith
 Contract Administrator
 303-384-7354 - phone
 303-384-7329 - fax

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO LETTER OF INTEREST NO. RCQ-3-33636

Offerors are required to acknowledge receipt of this Amendment No. 1 to Letter of Interest No. RCQ-3-33636. Please sign and return this acknowledgement form with your response to the attention of Liz Surek-Smith, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Mailstop #2713, Golden, CO 80401.

RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED: _____

UNIVERSITY: _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

DATE: _____